

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

Claim 1 (Canceled).

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The bevel friction ring gear as set forth in claim  $\pm$  33, wherein the first ~~press-on~~ pressing apparatus part ~~(9, 10, 11)~~ is unregulated.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The bevel friction ring gear as set forth in claim  $\pm$  33, wherein the second ~~press-on~~ pressing apparatus part ~~(14)~~ is regulated.

Claim 4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The bevel friction ring gear as set forth in claim  $\pm$  33, wherein the second ~~press-on~~ pressing apparatus part ~~(14)~~ applies a pressure opposing the force applied by the first ~~press-on~~ pressing apparatus part ~~(9, 10, 11)~~.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The bevel friction ring gear as set forth in claim ~~4~~ 33, wherein the second ~~press-on~~ pressing apparatus part ~~(14)~~ partially accommodates the force applied by the first ~~press-on~~ pressing apparatus part ~~(9, 10, 11)~~.

Claim 7 (Canceled).

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim ~~7~~ 35, wherein the second ~~press-on~~ pressing apparatus part ~~(14)~~ is hydraulically actuated.

Claim 9 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 8, wherein the hydraulic actuation includes an electromagnetically actuated piston ~~(48)~~.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 9, wherein the piston closes an overflow/refill port ~~(52)~~ on its pressure generating path.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 8, ~~wherein the hydraulic actuation comprises~~ further comprising a gear pump ~~(61)~~ for hydraulically actuating the second pressing apparatus part.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 11, wherein the gear pump is actuated by an electric motor ~~(62)~~ that applies a voltage dependent torque.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 7 35 with at least two operating conditions in which at least one input member ~~(101)~~ and at least one output member ~~(102)~~ are pressed against each other by ~~means of at least one press-on~~ said pressing apparatus exerting a ~~press-on~~ pressing pressure varying as a function of the respective operating condition, wherein the ~~press-on~~ pressing apparatus ~~(108, 125, 126)~~ includes at least two ~~press-on~~ pressing units ~~(110, 111, 125, 126)~~.

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 7 35, wherein the two ~~press-on~~ pressing units ~~(110, 111, 125, 126)~~ ~~comprise~~ have different operating condition - ~~press-on~~ pressing force characteristic curves.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 7 35, wherein the two ~~press-on~~ pressing units ~~(110, 111, 125, 126)~~ have a first share in the ~~press-on~~ pressing force in the a first operating condition and a second share in the ~~press-on~~ pressing

force in ~~the~~ a second operating condition, with the difference between the first and the second share of the first ~~press-on~~ pressing unit differing from the difference between the first and second share of the second ~~press-on~~ pressing unit.

Claim 16 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 7 35, wherein the two ~~press-on~~ pressing units are configured to act in parallel with respect to determining ~~the~~ an operating condition and/or with respect to the ~~press-on~~ pressing force.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 7 35, wherein the two ~~press-on~~ pressing units ~~(110, 111, 125, 126)~~ are configured to act in series with respect to determining ~~the~~ an operating condition and/or with respect to the ~~press-on~~ pressing force.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 7 35, wherein at least one ~~press-on~~ pressing unit ~~(110, 111, 125, 126)~~ ~~comprises~~ has an operating condition - ~~press-on~~ pressing force characteristic curve having a substantially constant slope.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 7 35, wherein the ~~press-on~~ pressing apparatus ~~(108, 125, 126)~~

includes at least two ~~press-on~~ pressing units ~~(110, 111, 125, 126)~~ coupled together.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The gear as set forth in claim 19, wherein the coupling is configured to be mechanical.

Claim 21 (Previously Presented): The gear as set forth in claim 19, wherein the coupling is configured to be hydrodynamic or hydrostatic.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 7 35, wherein a ~~press-on~~ first pressing unit ~~(126)~~ is disposed on the input side and a ~~press-on~~ second pressing unit ~~(125)~~ is disposed on the output side.

Claim 23 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 7 35 with at least two operating conditions in which at least one input member ~~(101)~~ and at least one output member ~~(102)~~ are pressed against each other by means of ~~at least one press-on~~ said pressing apparatus ~~(108, 125, 126)~~ exerting a ~~press-on~~ pressing pressure varying as a function of ~~the~~ a respective operating condition, wherein said ~~press-on~~ pressing apparatus ~~comprises~~ has an operating condition - ~~press-on~~ pressing force characteristic curve that has

another average slope between an at rest position of the friction gear and a first operating condition than between the first operating condition and a second operating condition.

Claim 24 (Canceled).

Claim 25 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 7 35, wherein the operating condition is chosen to be proportional to the output and/or input torque.

Claim 26 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 7 35, wherein the first operating condition is the lowest torque anticipated to occur under full load.

Claim 27 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 7 35, wherein the first operating condition is the highest torque anticipated to occur under full load.

Claim 28 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 7 35, ~~wherein~~ further comprising at least two ~~press-on~~ pressing units ~~(125, 126)~~ the ~~press-on~~ pressing force of a respective one of which is varied by different kinds of operating conditions ~~such as~~ ~~input torque, output torque, total load, forces or the like.~~

Claim 29 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 7 35, wherein the ~~press-on~~ pressing apparatus ~~(108, 125, 126)~~ comprises a torque - ~~press-on~~ pressing force characteristic curve that effects a ~~press-on~~ pressing force of near 0 N, ~~more specifically of less than 1 N,~~ at insignificant torque.

Claim 30 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 7 35, wherein the ~~press-on~~ pressing apparatus ~~(108, 125, 126)~~ comprises a torque - ~~press-on~~ pressing force characteristic curve that comprises, between a lowest torque anticipated to occur in operation and a highest torque anticipated to occur in operation, a smaller average slope under full load than below the lowest torque anticipated to occur in operation.

Claim 31 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 7 35, wherein the ~~press-on~~ pressing apparatus ~~(125, 126)~~ comprises a load dependent operating condition - ~~press-on~~ pressing force characteristic curve.

Claim 32 (Currently Amended): The gear as set forth in claim 31, wherein the ~~press-on~~ pressing force under loads below full load is smaller than the ~~press-on~~ pressing force under full load.

Claim 33 (New): A bevel friction ring gear comprising

- (a) an input bevel gear;
- (b) an output bevel gear;
- (c) a friction ring forming a surrounding grip around one of said bevel gears;
- (d) a registering device for registering a torque to be transmitted; and
- (e) a pressing apparatus for locking together said bevel gears and said friction ring with said registering device;

wherein said pressing apparatus comprises a pressing force applicator for applying a pressing force corresponding to the torque to be transmitted and first and second pressing apparatus parts, the first pressing apparatus part requiring a shorter reaction time than the second pressing apparatus part.

Claim 34 (New): A bevel friction ring gear comprising

- (a) an input bevel gear;
- (b) an output bevel gear;
- (c) a friction ring forming a surrounding grip around one of said bevel gears;
- (d) a registering device for registering a torque to be transmitted; and



(e) a pressing apparatus for locking together said bevel gears and said friction ring with said registering device;

wherein said pressing apparatus comprises a pressing force applicator for applying a pressing force corresponding to the torque to be transmitted and first and second pressing apparatus parts, the first pressing apparatus part providing a first pressing force that is greater than or equal to a net pressing force to be provided by said pressing apparatus, the second pressing apparatus part reducing the pressing force provided by the first pressing apparatus part.

Claim 35 (New): A bevel friction ring gear comprising

- (a) a first torque transmitting gear member;
- (b) a second torque transmitting gear member; and
- (c) a pressing apparatus locking together said first torque transmitting gear member with said second torque transmitting gear member;

wherein said pressing apparatus comprises a pressing force applicator for applying a pressing force corresponding to the torque to be transmitted and first and second pressing apparatus parts, the first pressing apparatus part requiring a shorter reaction time than the second pressing apparatus part.

Claim 36 (New): A method of operating a bevel friction gear comprising the steps of:

(a) pressing at least one input bevel gear member and at least one output bevel gear member together by a pressing apparatus;

(b) operating the pressing apparatus with a first operating condition-pressing force characteristic curve that has a first average slope between an at rest position of the friction gear and a first operating condition; and

(c) operating the pressing apparatus with a second operating condition-pressing force characteristic curve that has a second average slope between the first operating condition and a second operating condition;

wherein the first average slope is different from the second average slope.